



648.41112X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*BY*

Applicants: M. EZUMI, et al.  
Application No.: 10/058,957  
Filed: January 30, 2002  
For: FRICTION STIR WELDING METHOD  
Art Group: 1725  
Examiner: Z. Pittman

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 AND § 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

January 29, 2003

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find a copy of a Partial European Search Report in connection with an European Patent Application corresponding to the above-identified application. Also enclosed are copies of the documents cited in this Partial European Search Report.

This Partial European Search Report is being submitted prior to a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application. Accordingly, requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97(b) are clearly satisfied.

To the extent that the enclosed documents are not in English, it is respectfully submitted that requirements of 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(e) are satisfied by the enclosed Partial European Search Report, particularly taken together with Abstracts of the respective non-English documents.


Also enclosed herewith is a Form, substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, listing the enclosed documents.

In view of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97 and § 1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with all of the documents listed on the enclosed Form. Accordingly, consideration of the listed documents, upon examination of the above-identified application on the merits, is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 648.41112X00) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

By   
William I. Solomon  
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Attachments: Form PTO-1449  
Foreign Search Report  
References 5

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